

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A patient positioning device for positioning a patient in a supine position so that traction can be administered to the patient's back, comprising:
 - a bottom support frame comprising a pivot;
 - a leg support, that is coupled to the bottom support, and upon which the patient's lower legs rest in an attitude substantially parallel to the patient's spine throughout the full range of motion of the device;
 - a vertical support member coupled to the leg support;
 - a motor coupled to the bottom support frame; and
 - an actuator, coupled to the vertical support member, which the motor powers to push the vertical support member and rotate the leg support and the patient's lower legs from a lowered position to an elevated position, such that the patient is moved to a supine position that includes the patient's lower legs being elevated and substantially parallel to the patient's spine and the patient's upper legs being disposed in an angular relationship with the patient's lower legs and back.
2. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 1, wherein the actuator comprises a cylinder attached coupled to the bottom frame and a screw, which is coupled to the vertical support member, that extends into the cylinder.
3. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 1, further comprising a pad that fits behind a person's thighs.
4. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 1, further comprising a rail and a track for extending the leg support relative to the bottom support frame.
5. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 1, further comprising a controller that is electrically coupled to the motor to control the movement of the device between the lowered and elevated positions.
6. (Previously Presented) A patient positioning device that can be placed on a surface on which a person lies, and that can move a person's feet and lower legs between a lowered position and an elevated position, comprising:

a bottom frame comprising a pivot;
a leg support that is coupled to the pivot and upon which the person's lower legs rest in an attitude substantially parallel to the patient's spine; and
a means for rotating the leg support and the person's lower legs about the pivot from the lowered position to the elevated position, in which the person is in a supine position that includes the patient's lower legs being elevated and substantially parallel to the patient's spine and the patient's upper legs being disposed in an angular relationship with the patient's lower legs and back.

7. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 6, wherein the means for rotating comprises a motor.

8. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 7, wherein the means comprises a controller for control the power to the motor and thereby move the device between the lowered and elevated positions.

9. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 8, wherein the means for rotating further comprises an actuator.

10. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 9, wherein the actuator comprises a screw and a cylinder.

11. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 10, further comprising a vertical support coupled to the bottom frame and the leg cushion to which the screw is coupled, and wherein the cylinder is coupled to the bottom frame, so that when the screw moves linearly with respect to the cylinder the device rotates.

12. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 6, further comprising a linkage that couples the bottom frame to the leg support.

13. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 5, further comprising a pad that fits behind a person's thighs.

14. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 13, further comprising a rail and track for moving the leg support and the pad relative to the bottom frame.

15. (Presently Presented) An apparatus for supporting a patient's lower legs while undergoing spinal traction while in a supine position, comprising:
a base;
a leg support upon which the patient's lower legs rest;
a linkage that connects the base to the leg support and that rotates the leg support and the patient's lower legs from a lowered position to an elevated position in an attitude substantially parallel to the patient's spine, in which the patient is in a supine position that includes the patient's lower legs being elevated and substantially parallel to the patient's spine and the patient's upper legs being disposed in an angular relationship with the patient's lower legs and back.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a motor that is coupled to the base to power the linkage and the leg support to rotate.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a cylinder coupled to the base and the motor and a screw coupled to the linkage, the screw moving relative to the cylinder such that when the motor powers the screw, the screw moves to rotate the leg support from the lowered position to the elevated position.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a controller that is electrically coupled to the motor to control the motor and the movement of the leg support.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a pad coupled to the leg support for padding a patient's thighs.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the leg support is adjustable relative to the base so that the leg support can be extended relative to the base.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a rail and a track for moving the leg support relative to the base.

22. (Presently Presented) A patient positioning device that rotates to lift a patient's lower legs while a patient is in a supine position, comprising:
a bottom support frame comprising a pivot;
a leg support;
a linkage that couples the leg support to the bottom support frame; and

a motor that rotates the leg support about the pivot from a lowered position to an elevated position, in which the patient is in a supine position that includes the patient's lower legs being elevated and substantially parallel to the patient's spine and the patient's upper legs being disposed in an angular relationship with the patient's lower legs and back.

23. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 22, further comprising a cylinder coupled to the bottom support frame and a screw coupled to the linkage, such that when the motor powers the screw, the screw moves relative to the cylinder to rotate the leg support from the lowered position to the elevated position.

24. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 23, further comprising a pad that fits behind a person's thighs.

25. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 23, further comprising a rail and a track for extending the leg support relative to the bottom support frame.

26. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 22, further comprising a controller electrically coupled to the motor for controlling the movement of the leg support from the elevated and lowered position.

27. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 25, wherein the pad is mounted to the leg support so that the pad moves with the leg support on the rail and the track.

28. (Previously Presented) A portable foot lifting device for supporting a patient's lower legs while undergoing spinal traction while in a supine position that can be set on a treatment table, comprising:
a bottom support comprising a pivot;
a lower leg support;
a linkage that couples the bottom support to the lower leg support; and
an actuator, coupled to the linkage, which pushes the linkage and the lower leg support to rotate from a lowered position to an elevated position, in which the patient is in a supine position that includes the patient's lower legs being elevated in an attitude substantially parallel to the patient's spine and the patient's upper legs being disposed in an angular relationship with the patient's lower legs and back.

29. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 28, wherein the actuator comprises a cylinder attached to the linkage and a screw, which is attached to the bottom support, the screw extending into the cylinder.

30. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 28, further comprising a pad that fits behind a person's thighs.

31. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 30, further comprising a rail and a track for extending the pad relative to the bottom support.

32. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 31, wherein the leg support is coupled to the track and the rail so that the leg support moves with the pad relative to the bottom support.

33. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 28, further comprising a motor that powers the actuator.

34. (Original) The patient positioning device of claim 33, further comprising a controller that is electrically coupled to the motor to permit a patient to control movement of the device.

35.-37. (Canceled))

38. (Currently Amended) A method for passively moving a patient's legs to the supine position, comprising:

resting a patient's lower legs on a cushion;

powering a motor which powers an actuator to [move] rotate the leg cushion and the legs about the hip from a lowered position to an elevated position, in which the patient is in a supine position that includes the patient's lower legs being elevated in an attitude substantially parallel to the patient's spine and the patient's upper legs being disposed in an angular relationship with the patient's lower legs and back.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38, further comprising powering the motor to cycle the cushion between the lowered position and the elevated position.